

No. R-38. House concurrent resolution honoring Bruce Johnson for his dynamic leadership of Springfield Area Public Access Television.

(H.C.R.22)

Offered by: Representatives Emmons of Springfield, Forguites of Springfield, Dakin of Chester, and Huntley of Cavendish

Whereas, Springfield Area Public Access Television (SAPA-TV), headquartered at a broadcast center located in Springfield High School and serving viewers primarily in Springfield, Chester, and Weathersfield, has transmitted municipal government deliberations and a diverse schedule of public affairs, educational, entertainment, and religious programs on a two-station system, and

Whereas, from October 2001 until January 2014, Bruce Johnson served as the talented SAPA-TV Executive Director under whose leadership the organization evolved into a television service that is a central element of local civic life and facilitates the viewing of many interesting events ranging from yoga classes to high school sports to fascinating travelogues, and

Whereas, Bruce Johnson viewed SAPA-TV as a local asset that “could bring the community to people’s living rooms,” and

Whereas, at SAPA-TV’s 2014 annual meeting, Jared Gunnell, the new Executive Director, presented his former boss with a lifetime achievement award in recognition of his predecessor’s extraordinary service and dedication to the success of SAPA-TV, and

Whereas, presenting this award to Bruce Johnson was an emotional experience for Jared Gunnell, whom Bruce Johnson hired in 2008 as a production manager, and

Whereas, SAPA-TV has completed a number of technical improvements and hopes to inaugurate Internet streaming in the near future, and

Whereas, the Johnson family remains actively involved at SAPA-TV as Bruce Johnson’s wife, Marita, now serves as its board’s vice president, and

Whereas, greater Springfield greatly appreciates Bruce Johnson’s contribution to improving access to community events and broadening the personal horizons of SAPA-TV’s viewers, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Bruce Johnson for his dynamic leadership of Springfield Area Public Access Television, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Bruce Johnson in Springfield and to Springfield Area Public Access Television.